Judicial powers under the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act

2301. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the executive has also been vested with judicial powers under the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act; and

(b) whether government would consider withdrawal of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (EC Act) as amended by the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981, Collectors of the districts and the State Governments are vested with quasi-judicial powers in respect of confiscation of an essential commodity seized in pursuance of orders made under the Act.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Compaign for consumer awareness among the masses

2302. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is still ignorance among the masses about their rights as consumers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have drawn plans to intensify their campaign in spreading consumer awareness among the masses; and

(c) if so, by when the plans are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) The Consumer movement is a recent development in this country. So far Government has taken a number of measures to create consumer awareness amongst the masses about their rights. Some of these measures are enactment and enforcement of Consumer Protection Act, 1986; amendments of seven major legislations namely the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act etc. to empower consumer and registered consumer organisations to file complaint in the courts; encouraging formating of consumer organisations; organising seminars, exhibitions, meetings training programmes etc; printing of literature and its free distribution; publishing a quarterly journal "Upabhokta Jagaran" and its free distribution to consumer organisations, liberaries etc; observance of Consumer Day; preparation of audio visual material; broadcast of weekly programme "Apne Adhikar" on AIR; use of mass media; institution of two national awards—one for consumer organisations and other for youths etc.

भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो की प्रयोगशालायें

2303. **श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग:** क्या **नागरिक, आपूर्ति उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो की कितनी प्रयोगशालायें स्थापित की गई हैं और ये प्रयोगशालायें किन-किन स्थानों पर स्थित हैं ;

(ख) क्या भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो की एक प्रयोगशाला मध्य प्रदेश में स्थापित किए जाने संबंधी कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो यह प्रयोगशाला मध्य प्रदेश के किस जिले में स्थापित की जाएगी और यह प्रयोगशाला कब तक स्थापित किए जाने की संभावना है ?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री या वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) :

(क) भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो की निम्नलिखित 8 प्रयोगशालायें हैं :—

(1) साहिबाबाद, (गाजियाबाद, उ.प्र.)

(2) मुम्बई (महाराष्ट्र)

(3) कलकत्ता (पश्चिम बंगाल)

(4) मोहाली (पंजाब)

(5) मद्रास (तमिलनाडु)

(6) पटना (बिहार)

(7) बंगलोर (कर्नाटक)

(8) गुवाहटी (असम)

(ख) जी हां ।

(ग) इसे आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान भोपाल में स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव है ।

Requirement nad import of Edible Oils

2304. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUPLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantiy of edible oils required for annual consumption in the country; and

(b) the quantity of edible oils imported annually during the last three years i.e. 1990-91 and 1991-92 including the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) As per Planning Commission's projection, the demad of edible oils in the country for the Current Oil Year 1992-93 (November-October) is estimated to be of the order of 65.59 lakhs MT's.

(b) The quantity of edible oils imported during the last three years is as under:—

Financial Year	Qty. Imported (Lakh MTs.)
1990-91 . . .	5.38
1991-92 . . .	1.62
1992-93 . . .	0.30*(Approx.)

*Besides, a quantity of 4.47 lakh MT's (Approx.) of Crude Coyabean Oil has also been received during the year as gift under USAID PL 480 Title-III agreement.

गुजरात को वस्तुओं का आबंटन

2305. **श्री राम सिंह राठवा** : क्या **नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान उनके मंत्रालय द्वारा गुजरात को आबंटित की गई